

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 HA-05 /052 W
-----024881 190649Z /21

R 180815Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2963
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 2618

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, SHUM, BC, SF, UK
SUBJECT: GOB ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS INVESTIGATION OF TULI BLOCK
KILLINGS CONTINUES

REF: A) GABORONE 1004; B) GABORONE 0896

1. DAILY NEWS AUGUST 16 CARRIES BRIEF STORY IN WHICH GOB
ATTORNEY GENERAL MOLELEKI MOKAMA TOLD REPORTER THAT HE HAS
ORDERED "RE-INVESTIGATION" OF TULI BLOCK INCIDENT IN WHICH UK
CITIZEN NICHOLAS LOVE AND TWO SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS WERE
SHOT WHILE IN CUSTODY OF BDF. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE,
MOKAMA TOLD REPORTER THAT HE EXPECTS REPORT TO BE SUB-
MITTED "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE". ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH
BRIEF RECAPITULATION OF GOB STATEMENT ISSUED IMMEDIATELY
AFTER INCIDENT WHICH SAID THAT THREE FOREIGNERS WERE SHOT
WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO OVERPOWER THEIR BDF GUARDS.

2. ARTICLE IS FIRST PUBLIC REFERENCE TO INCIDENT BY
GOB OFFICIAL OR BOTSWANA MEDIA SINCE PUBLICATION OF
INITIAL STATEMENT BY OFFICE OF PRESIDENT (REF A)
HOWEVER, INCIDENT CONTINUES TO BE EMBARRASSEMENT TO
GOB AND AT LEAST MINOR IRRITANT IN GOB RELATIONS
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WITH UK AND SOUTH AFRICA. ACCORDING TO GOB ADMINI-
STRATIVE SECRETARY TIBONE, BOTH PM CALLAGHAN AND
FONSEC OWEN RAISED INCIDENT DURING PRESIDENT KHAMA'S
APRIL TRIP TO UK. TIBONE TOLD US WITH SOME BITTER-
NESS THAT LOVE'S FATHER HAD EMBARRASSED PRESIDENT
KHAMA BY TURNING UP WHEREVER THE PRESIDENT WENT TO
SERVE AS LIVING REMINDER OF HIS SON'S DEATH. UK

HICOM OFFICER BAGSHAW TOLD US THAT AUGUST 16 ARTICLE WAS NOT RESPONSE TO ANY PARTICULAR UK INITIATIVE, ALTHOUGH UK COMMISSION CONTINUES TO PERIODICALLY EXPRESS ITS CONCERN OVER INCIDENT TO GOB.

3. COMMENT: ARTICLE IS WELCOME EVIDENCE THAT GOB IS AWARE OF ITS OBLIGATION TO INVESTIGATE BDF BEHAVIOR IN TULI BLOCK INCIDENT. HOWEVER, SO MUCH TIME HAS NOW PASSED THAT CREDIBILITY OF ANY INVESTIGATION REPORT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, DEATHS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GABORO02618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780339-0887
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780850/aaaabphv.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GABORONE 1004, 78 GABORONE 896
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1700834
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOB ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS INVESTIGATION OF TULI BLOCK KILLINGS CONTINUES
TAGS: PDEV, SHUM, BC, SF, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b0fc6f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014